

REMARKS

The informalities pointed out by the Examiner have been obviated by amendment of claim 3 and cancellation of claim 5.

The specification has been amended to more fully describe the invention and the formal drawings replace the informal drawings originally filed.

Claims 1 and 3 have been amended to more clearly define the invention over the cited art. Claims 4, 5 and 6 have been cancelled and dependent claim 7 has been added.

Claims 1 – 6 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) and 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henderson et al. Henderson et al. discloses apparatus for changing die sets in a stamping press line. The heavy dies are transferred to and from the presses by power driven carts and movement of the dies to and from the carts is effected by power driven transfer drives (Col. 5, line 51 to Col. 6, line 13). The dies are not moved manually. Workmen do not stand upon the carts. The plates 102 are properly described (Col. 6, lines 33-35) as “cover plates” – not walkways. The workmen stand on the floor of the stamping facility when making cart connections with the link members 88' and 88". The workman also stand on the floor of the stamping facility when using the hand held control 274. An inventor desiring to solve a problem of manual movement of large home improvement items to and from an order picker lift truck would not look for or find solutions in a stamping mill.

As amended claim 1 clearly defines distinguishes the invention over Henderson et al. by defining

a pair of parallel hollow frame members 14, 16 secured to the underside of a horizontal deck 12 which are adapted to receive laterally spaced forks of a lift mechanism of a material handling vehicle,

a pair of parallel roller conveyors 18, 19 which are spaced from one another in a front to rear direction and include support beams 21, 22, 23, 24 secured to the top of the deck 12 and disposed above the elevation of the floor segments 31, 32.

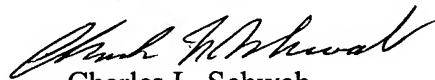
Thus the frame members 14, 16 reinforce the deck in a front to rear direction and the beams 21, 22, 23, 24 reinforce the deck in a lateral direction. By placing the roller support beams on top of the deck at an elevation above the floor segments 31, 32, the workman is less likely to inadvertently or accidentally step on the rollers. Thus in addition to the desired reinforcement of the deck, the elevation of the roller conveyors provides a safer material handling attachment for manual movement of goods than would be provided if the top of the rollers were near floor level.

Dependent claims 2, 3 and 7 are believed to be allowable for the reasons presented for allowance of claim 1 and because of their additional structural definition.

Dependent claim 3 has been amended to include the upright brace 36 and the rollers are defined as being cylindrical. An upright brace is not suggested by Henderson et al.

This application is believed in allowable condition and notice thereof is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached two sheets of formal drawings containing Figures 1, 2 and 3 replace the originally filed two sheets of drawings containing Figures 1, 2 and 3. The originally filed drawings contained rough hand written reference numbers. There are no numerical changes in the reference numbers.